Government is sensitive to these issues as brought out below:—

Although, as pointed out by the Parliamentary Standing Committee, the differential advantages enjoyed by these units vis-a-vis the domestic exporters have narrowed down following liberalisation. The range of facilities provided under the EOU/EPZ scheme; such as duty free import of capital goods and raw materials, excise exemption for domestic goods, streamlined approval procedure, foreign equity participation upto 100%, 5 year tax holiday, ready infrastructure in the case of EPZs and limited access to domestic market; makes the scheme still relevant as an important vehicle for encouraging export production. Basically. EOU/EPZ scheme aims to provide a competitive duty free environment for export production on a continuous basis rather than on a transaction to transaction basis.

Some of the steps takento improve the performance of EOU/EPZ units include simplification of Policy framework, reduction of duty on domestic sales, higher access to local market for agro-based products and delegation of powers to Development Commissioners of EPZs.

Certain measures recently taken to further enhance the attraction of the scheme are broadening of areas of activity in EPZs by providing for trading, reexport after repacking labeling and also repairs, reconditioning and reengineering, introduction of greater flexibillty of operations for electronic units in regard to minimum value addition and domestic access and liberalised debonding modalities.

Decision to import sugar

*692. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to import sugar through STC and MMTC;

(b) if so, the quantities being imported; and

(c) by when the deliveries are expected in India and distributed to the Public Distribution System?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) STC & MMTC have been asked to import sufficent quantities of sugar for augmenting the supplies to PDS. Upto 9-6-1994 both the Corporations have finalised import of 6.26 lakh tonnes with shipment dates between June to November, 1994.

न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनियम के कार्यान्वयन के लिये केन्द्रीय औद्योगिक सम्बन्ध तंत्र की स्थापना

693. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :**
प्रो० विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा :

क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश के विभिन्न भागों में श्रमिकों को सरकार द्वारा नियत न्यूनतम मजदूरी का भुगतान नहीं किया जा रहा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनियम को राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर लागू करने के लिए केन्द्रीय औद्योगिक सम्बन्ध तन्त्र स्थापित किया है :

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसकी स्थापना कब की गई थी और इस तन्त्र पर सरकार द्वारा प्रतिवर्ष औसतन कुल कितनी धनराशि व्यय की जा रही है ; और